

WE CLAIM:

Fig 1

1. ~~A biaxial elastic stretch, breathable laminate, comprising a breathable elastic film; and a nonwoven facing material, stretchable in two mutually perpendicular directions, bonded to the film; the laminate having elastic stretch of at least 50% in a machine direction and at least 50% in a cross direction.~~

2. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane.

3. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film comprises a polyether amide.

4. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film comprises a polyester elastomer.

5. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film comprises a monolithic film including a breathable polymer.

6. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film comprises a breathable microporous film.

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7. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film has a water vapor transmission rate of at least about 500 grams/m²-24 hours.

8. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film has a water vapor transmission rate in a range of about 750 to about 50,000 grams/m²-24 hours.

9. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film has a water vapor transmission rate in a range of about 1,000 to about 40,000 grams/m²-24 hours.

10. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the film has a basis weight in

a range of 5 to 20 grams per square meter.

11. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the facing material is stretchable in a cross direction.

12. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the facing material is stretchable in a cross direction and in a machine direction.

13. The laminate of Claim 1, wherein the facing material is elastomeric in a machine direction and in a cross direction.

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Non-Weaving

No Sewing

21. An absorbent article outer cover comprising the laminate of Claim 1.

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22. A biaxial elastic stretch, breathable laminate, comprising:
a water vapor-permeable elastic film comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyurethanes, polyether amides, polyester elastomers and combinations thereof; and
a spunbond nonwoven web, having machine direction stretch and cross direction stretch, bonded to the film.

23. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the spunbond nonwoven web is necked to achieve cross direction stretch.

24. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the spunbond nonwoven web is creped to achieve machine direction stretch.

25. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the spunbond nonwoven web is crimped to achieve machine direction stretch.

26. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the film and web are thermally bonded together.

27. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the film and web are adhesively bonded together.

28. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein the film and web are bonded together via an extrusion coating process.

29. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is at least 50%.

30. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is in a range of 70% to 200%.

31. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is in a range of 100% to 150%.

32. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction is at least 50%.

33. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction is in a range of 70% to 200%.

34. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction is in a range of 100% to 150%.

35. The laminate of Claim 22, wherein stretchability of the laminate in a machine direction is roughly equal to stretchability of the laminate in a cross direction.

36. An absorbent article outer cover comprising the laminate of Claim 22.

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37. ~~A biaxial elastic stretch, breathable laminate fluid barrier, comprising a breathable elastic film; and a necked nonwoven facing material bonded to the film.~~

38. ~~The laminate fluid barrier of Claim 37, wherein the necked nonwoven facing material is creped prior to being bonded to the film.~~

39. The laminate fluid barrier of Claim 37, wherein the film is pre-stretched when bonded to the facing material.